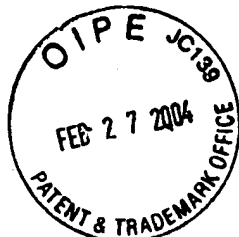


03500.015453.



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
MASAHIKO KUBOTA, et al.)
Application No.: 09/878,946)
Filed: June 13, 2001)
For: SOLID SEMICONDUCTOR)
ELEMENT, INK TANK,)
INK JET RECORDING)
APPARATUS PROVIDED)
WITH INK TANK, LIQUID)
INFORMATION ACQUIRING)
METHOD AND LIQUID)
PHYSICAL PROPERTY CHANGE :
DISCRIMINATING METHOD)

Examiner: L. Liang
Group Art Unit: 2853

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February 26, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to PCT/WO 97/28001, a copy of which is enclosed and which is listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

This document was cited during prosecution of a Singapore patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Search Report from the Austrian Patent Office (apparently done on behalf of the Singapore Registry of Patents) is enclosed.

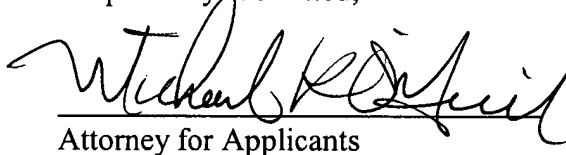
Other documents cited in the Search Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated September 30, 2003 and January 13, 2003.

This application has received an Office Action on the merits but has not yet received either a final action or a notice of allowance. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and is accompanied by the \$180.00 fee specified at 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Consideration of the art cited herein is accordingly deemed proper, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)ATTY DOCKET NO.
03500.015453APPLICATION NO.
09/878,946

APPLICANT

Masahiko Kubota, et al.

FILING DATE

June 13, 2001

GROUP

2853

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
97/28001	8/7/97	PCT/WO			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy form with next communication to applicant.